IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING UP WITH LATEST RELEASE

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ZABBIX 5.2 IS RIGHT BEHIND THE CORNER

- New Security Features
- Hello IoT (Modbus & MQTT Support)
- Performance Optimizations
- Usability Improvements
- Sounds Tempting? But there’s much more!
HOW OFTEN CAN WE EXPECT NEW RELEASES?

Currently Supported Zabbix releases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Release name</th>
<th>Release date</th>
<th>End of Full Support*</th>
<th>End of Limited Support**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zabbix 5.0 LTS</td>
<td>May 12, 2020</td>
<td>May 31, 2023</td>
<td>May 31, 2025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zabbix 4.0 LTS</td>
<td>October 1, 2018</td>
<td>October 31, 2021</td>
<td>October 31, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zabbix 3.0 LTS</td>
<td>February 16, 2016</td>
<td>February 28, 2019</td>
<td>February 28, 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Full Support services include fixing of general, critical and security issues.
** Limited Support services include fixing of critical and security issues only. Zabbix does not guarantee any code fixes for older releases and non-stable releases.
WHAT IF...

- You could be running Zabbix 3.2 without issues for a long time
- But what if suddenly you hit a known bug?
  - Your version is not supported anymore
  - You still must upgrade
  - No time for preparation
  - No time for tests
LTS OR STANDARD

- LTS – 5 years
- Standard – Till next release
- But what if you desperately need new functionality?
IT IS NOT EASY TO KEEP UP!

- What version you are running in production?
- Why not latest? Reasons for that usually are very similar.
  - We have a lot of customization and afraid that it will stop working
  - We want to avoid downtime of our Monitoring system
  - Hard to get accept from management
  - Current version has proved that it’s stable
IT IS NOT EASY TO KEEP UP!

☐ You have many customizations?
  • A lot of new things are covered with native functionality in new releases
  • Things are changing and some of your customizations might not be needed anymore

☐ Need examples?
  • Low Level Discovery was added only in Zabbix 2.0. What users did before that?
  • Pre-processing was introduced in Zabbix 3.4. A lot of scripts were deleted then.
  • Native webhook support. You don’t need complicated alertscripts anymore.
DOWNTIME IS NOT AN OPTION?

- There always are ways how to perform upgrade with minimal downtime.
  - Clone your existing instance
  - Move all the traffic to clone
  - Upgrade production
  - Move traffic back to production
  - Merge history from clone to prod
NOT SURE HOW TO UPGRADE?

- Learn online and try it out!
  - Webinars
  - Blogs
  - Community feedback
  - Videos
  - etc
IS IT EASY TO UPGRADE?

- Upgrade directly to your desired version
- Agents are backwards compatible
- What about Zabbix proxy?
- Most Important – Upgrade notes
DELAYING UPGRADE IS NOT A GOOD IDEA

- Not only old ZABBIX versions are getting out of Support
- Server OS support lifecycle
- Software lifecycle
- Security concerns
- Vulnerability
- Employee qualification
Thank you!